AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

one or more digital cameras for capturing a plurality of images; and

a delivery-medium producing apparatus for automatically recording the plurality of images captured by a plurality of digital cameras,

_____wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus includes: ~~ing:~~

a receiving unit configured to receive the plurality of images via wireless communications with the one or more digital cameras,

an image keeping apparatus configured to keep said plurality of images received and recorded by said receiving unit and to create image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet, and

a delivery-medium recording unit configured to record said plurality of images onto one or more recording media,

wherein the one or more digital cameras ~~are configured~~ are programmed to automatically determine when an image transmitting condition is met without the user inputting a transmission command and without receiving an external instruction that the condition is met, and to automatically transmit the plurality of images to the delivery-medium producing apparatus in response to the determination.

2. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus further includes:

another receiving unit operable to receive a negative film; and

an image converting unit operable to read an image recorded onto said negative film and to convert said read image into a digital image,

wherein said digital image is kept by said image keeping apparatus and is recorded onto one of said recording media for a corresponding user.

3. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said plurality of images are automatically transmitted to the receiving unit from a plurality of digital cameras corresponding to a plurality of users, and

said delivery-medium recording unit records one or more images of said plurality of images onto one of said recording media for one of said users at predetermined intervals.

4. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said plurality of images are automatically transmitted to the receiving unit from a plurality of digital cameras corresponding to a plurality of users,

said delivery-medium recording unit records one or more images of said plurality of images when a recording instruction from said one of said users is received.

5. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus further includes a database operable to store information related to each of said plurality of images in such a manner that said information corresponds to said each of said plurality of images, wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit records said plurality of images onto said recording media based on said information in said database.

6. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said information includes at least a user ID of said each of said plurality of images that specifies a corresponding user.

7. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said information further includes at least one of a date and a place said each of said plurality of images was captured, and

said delivery-medium recording unit records said plurality of images after classification of said images based on said at least one of said data and said place.

8. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus further includes:

an extra-printing-request receiving unit operable to receive an extra-printing request for an image of said plurality of images kept by said image keeping apparatus from a corresponding user; and

an extra-printing processing unit operable to print said image to be extra-printed onto paper in accordance with said extra-printing request.

9. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said extra-printing request specifies said image to be extra-printed, and the quantity and size of the extra print.

10. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus further includes a database operable to store image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, wherein

said extra-printing request specifies said image to be extra-printed by specifying one of said image IDs that is assigned to said image to be extra-printed, and

said extra-printing processing unit specifies said image to be extra-printed by referring to said database.

11. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said recording media stores said image IDs respectively assigned to said images together with said images, to help each of said users to select said image to be extra-printed.

12. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the delivery-medium producing apparatus further includes an extra-printing-request receiving unit operable to receive an extra-printing request for an image of said plurality of images kept by said image keeping apparatus from a corresponding user, and wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit records said image to be extra-printed onto a new recording medium.

13. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein

the delivery-medium further includes a database operable to store image IDs respectively assigned to said images, wherein

said extra-printing request specifies said image to be extra-printed by specifying one of said image IDs that is assigned to said image to be extra-printed, and wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit specifies said image to be extra-printed by referring to said database and records said image thus specified onto said new recording medium.

14. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein

said plurality of images are automatically transmitted to the receiving unit from a plurality of digital cameras corresponding to a plurality of users,

said recording media stores said image IDs respectively assigned to said images together with said images, to help each of said users to select said image to be extra-printed.

15. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

one or more digital cameras for capturing a plurality of images; and

a delivery-medium producing apparatus for automatically recording the plurality of images captured by a plurality of digital cameras,

_____ wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus includes: ing:-

a receiving unit configured to receive the plurality of images via wireless communications with the one or more digital cameras,

an image keeping apparatus configured to keep said plurality of images received and recorded by said receiving unit and to create image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet,

a delivery-medium recording unit configured to record said plurality of images onto one or more recording media,

a keeping-time monitoring unit configured to monitor a keeping time for each of said plurality of images to determine whether or not said keeping time reaches an end of a

predetermined keeping term, said keeping time being a time that has passed after said each of said plurality of images was recorded in said image keeping apparatus, and

a keeping-time notifying unit configured to notify, when said keeping time is determined to reach said end of said predetermined keeping term, a corresponding user of said each of said plurality of images that said predetermined term expired,

wherein the one or more digital cameras are ~~configured~~ programmed to automatically determine when an image transmitting condition is met without the user inputting a transmission command and without receiving an external instruction that the condition is met, and to automatically transmit the plurality of images to the delivery-medium producing apparatus in response to the determination.

16. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said image keeping apparatus deletes one of said plurality of images for which said predetermined keeping term expired, if no user's instruction is received from said corresponding user within a predetermined waiting time period after the notification.

17. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

one or more digital cameras for capturing a plurality of images; and

a delivery-medium producing apparatus for automatically recording the plurality of images captured by a plurality of digital cameras,

wherein the delivery-medium producing apparatus includes: ~~ing:~~

a receiving unit configured to receive the plurality of images via wireless communications with the one or more digital cameras,

an image keeping apparatus configured to keep said plurality of images received and recorded by said receiving unit and to create image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet,

a delivery-medium recording unit configured to record said plurality of images onto one or more recording media,

a payment-mode receiving unit configured to receive an instruction specifying a payment mode from each of one or more users of the one or more digital cameras, and

a payment processing unit operable to indirectly charge each of said one or more users in accordance with said specified payment mode,

wherein the one or more digital cameras are ~~configured~~ programmed to automatically determine when an image transmitting condition is met without the user inputting a transmission command and without receiving an external instruction that the condition is met, and to automatically transmit the plurality of images to the delivery-medium producing apparatus in response to the determination.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing thereon a program for use in a digital camera capable of being connected to a mobile phone, comprising:

a connection-detecting module operable to detect connection between said digital camera and said phone;

a calling module operable to make said mobile phone call a predetermined number after the connection is detected; and

a transmitting module ~~operable~~ programmed to automatically determine when an image transmitting condition is met without the user inputting a transmission command and without the digital camera receiving external data indicating that the condition is met, and to make said digital camera automatically transmit a plurality of images captured by said digital camera via said mobile phone to an external apparatus for storage in response to the determination,

wherein the external apparatus is adapted to automatically store said plurality of images captured and transmitted by a plurality of digital cameras and to create image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet.

19. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said digital camera is connected to said phone by short-distance radio communication.

20. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a monitoring module operable to monitor the number of said one or more images captured by said digital camera to determine whether or not said number reaches a predetermined number, wherein

said transmitting module makes said digital camera transmit said one or more images when said monitored number of said one or more images reaches said predetermined number.

21. (Currently Amended) A capturing device, comprising:

a capturing unit operable to capture a plurality of images of an object; and

a controller operable to control said capturing device and to control a communication device capable of being connected to said capturing device to wirelessly communicate with an external apparatus, wherein

said controller is ~~configured~~ programmed to automatically determine when an image transmitting condition is met without the user inputting a transmission command and without receiving an external instruction that the condition is met, and to control the capturing device to automatically transmit each of said plurality of images via said communicating device to said external apparatus for storage in response to the determination,

wherein the external apparatus is adapted to automatically store said plurality of images captured and transmitted by a plurality of capturing devices and to create image IDs respectively assigned to said plurality of images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet.

22. (Original) A capturing device as claimed in claim 21, wherein said capturing device stores a program to be executed by said controller, and

said capturing unit transmits said image to said external apparatus in accordance with said program.

23. (Original) A capturing device as claimed in claim 22, wherein said capturing device is operable to store said captured image,

said controller of said capturing unit determines whether or not the number of stored images reaches a predetermined number, and

said transmission is performed in accordance with said program when said number of said images reaches said predetermined number.

24. (Original) A capturing device as claimed in claim 22, wherein said controller determines whether or not a predetermined time period has passed after said image was captured, and

said transmission is performed in accordance with said program when said predetermined time period has passed after said image was captured.

25. (Previously Presented) A capturing device as claimed in claim 22, further comprising a unit operable to receive a user's instruction to allow an image to be transmitted manually.

26. (Previously Presented) A capturing device as claimed in claim 25, further comprising a display operable to display captured images to allow said user to select which image is to be transmitted manually to said external apparatus.

27. (Original) A capturing device as claimed in claim 21, wherein said communicating device is formed integrally with said capturing device as a single device.

28. (Currently Amended) A delivery-medium producing method for automatically recording a plurality of images captured by a plurality of digital cameras, comprising:

using each of a plurality of digital cameras to automatically determine when respective image transmitting conditions are met without the user inputting a transmission command, the digital cameras being programmed to determine when the respective conditions are met without receiving external instructions that the conditions are met;

in response to the determination, using each of the plurality of digital cameras to automatically transmit one or more images as digital data to a remote delivery-medium producing site;

receiving at the delivery-medium producing site the images automatically transmitted from the plurality of digital cameras by means of an image receiving unit;

keeping said received images at the delivery-medium producing site by recording said received images in an image keeping apparatus;

creating at the delivery-medium producing site image IDs respectively assigned to said received images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet;

recording one or more images of the kept images onto a recording medium; and

delivering said recording medium to a place specified by a user of the digital camera responsible for capturing the one or more images recorded on the recording medium.

29. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 28, wherein at least one of said plurality of digital cameras transmits an image to the delivery-medium producing site via a phone capable of being connected to said at least one of the digital cameras via a wire or wirelessly.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A delivery-medium producing method for automatically recording a plurality of images captured by a plurality of digital cameras, comprising:

using each of a plurality of digital cameras to automatically determine when respective image transmitting conditions are met without the user inputting a transmission command, the digital cameras being programmed to determine when the respective conditions are met without receiving external instructions that the conditions are met;

in response to the determination, using each of the plurality of digital cameras to automatically transmit one or more images as digital data to a remote delivery-medium producing site;

receiving at the delivery-medium producing site the images automatically transmitted from the plurality of digital cameras by means of an image receiving unit;

keeping said received images at the delivery-medium producing site by recording said received images in an image keeping apparatus;

creating at the delivery-medium producing site image IDs respectively assigned to said received images, each of said image IDs being linked to a predetermined web page on the Internet;

recording one or more of the kept images onto recording media;

delivering said recording media to places specified by users of said digital cameras;

receiving at the delivery-medium producing apparatus designations of payment modes made by said users; and

charging said users for required costs in accordance with said specified payment modes.

32. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 31, wherein each of said users is allowed to designate that payment of the required cost will be made in cash when said user receives said recording medium delivered to said user's specified place.

33. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 31, wherein each user is allowed to designate at least charging via a bank or via a credit service company as said payment mode.

34. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 33, wherein, said plurality of images are images transmitted via a phone connected to said digital cameras, and said users are allowed to designate charging via a telephone company as said payment mode.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said image transmitting condition is based on at least one of a shot date and a number of captured images.

37. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein each of said plurality of images are captured and stored in the digital camera.

38. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said transmitting module transmits said plurality of images in accordance with at least one of a shot date and a number of captured images.

39. (Previously Presented) A capturing device as claimed in claim 21, wherein each of said plurality of images are captured and stored in a digital camera.

40. (Previously Presented) A capturing device as claimed in claim 21, wherein said plurality of images are transmitted in accordance with at least one of a shot date and a number of captured images.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 28, wherein, for at least one of the digital cameras, the respective image transmitting condition is based on at least one of a shot date and a number of captured images.

43. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said delivery-medium recording unit automatically records an image in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

44. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said delivery-medium recording unit automatically records an image in accordance with

at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

45. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said delivery-medium recording unit automatically records an image in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said external apparatus automatically records the transmitted images onto recording media in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

47. (Previously Presented) A capturing device as claimed in claim 21, wherein said external apparatus automatically records the transmitted images onto recording media in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

48. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said method automatically records an image onto the recording medium in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

49. (Previously Presented) A delivery-medium producing method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said method automatically records an image onto one of the recording media in accordance with at least one of: a time that has passed after each image was captured, the number of the images that have been captured, and predetermined intervals.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit decides whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records a subsequently captured one of said plurality of images on the same recording medium as a previously captured one of said plurality of images in response to determining that the if a shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

52. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit decides whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records a subsequently captured one of said plurality of images on the same recording medium as a previously captured one of said plurality of images in response to determining that the if a shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot interval between the date and time said previously captured

image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

53. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein

said delivery-medium recording unit decides whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records a subsequently captured one of said plurality of images on the same recording medium as a previously captured one of said plurality of images in response to determining that the if a shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said delivery-medium recording unit decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

54. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 18, wherein

said external apparatus determines whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said external apparatus decides to records a subsequently captured one of said plurality of images on a same recording medium as a previously captured one of said plurality of images in response to determining that the if a shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said external apparatus decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the

shot-interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

55. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein

said external apparatus decides whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said external apparatus decides to records a subsequently captured one of said plurality of images on a same recording medium as a previously captured one of said plurality of images in response to determining that the if a shot-interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said external apparatus decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot-interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

56. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein

said recording step further comprises deciding whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said recording step decides to records a subsequently captured one of said received images on the same recording medium as a previously captured one of said received images in response to determining that the if a shot-interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

_____said recording step decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.

57. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein

_____ said recording step further comprises deciding whether to record particular ones of the plurality of images on the same recording medium or on different recording media based on the date and time each of the particular ones of the plurality of images were captured, such that:

said recording step decides to records a subsequently captured one of said received images on the same recording medium as a previously captured one of said received images in response to determining that the if a shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is shorter than a predetermined period, and

said recording step decides to records said subsequently captured image on a different recording medium than said previously captured image in response to determining that the if the shot interval between the date and time said previously captured image was captured and the date and time said subsequently captured image was captured is equal to or longer than the predetermined period.